



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

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TO: Natural Resources Commission
Department of Natural Resources Management Team

FROM: Anna Mooney, Liaison, Legislative & Legal Affairs Office

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources Legislative Update

PA 39 of 2017 (SB 118) – Trail Sponsor and Limited Liability – Sen. Hansen

This new act amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by amending Sections 72108 and 73301 and adding Section 73302 to allow the Department to become rail-trail sponsor and to expand liability coverage to individuals conducting work on Department trails and other lands.

PA 60 of 2017 (HB 4082) – Require Notification of Department Prescribed Burns – Rep. Whiteford

This new act amends Section 51501 and adds Section 51503c of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require prior notice to a township supervisor and primary point of emergency contact of prescribed burns.

SB 76 – Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) 2017 Appropriation – Sen. Booher

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Natural Resources Trust Fund Board, SB 76, as introduced, would appropriate \$47.6 million from the MNRTF for 27 acquisition projects (approximately \$27.7 million) and 87 development projects (approximately \$19.9 million). Total matching funds of \$40.1 million result in total project costs of \$87.7 million.

- This is before the Governor for consideration.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HB 4787 – Ice Shanty Removal – Rep. VanderWall

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by amending Sections 46502, 46507, and 46508 to change requirements for how an ice shanty can be identified. Instead of an individual using their home address to identify their shanty, the bill would allow for the use of the owner's driver license number or their sportcard to be posted on the outside of the shanty. The bill would also remove the dates in statute for when shanties are required to be removed from the ice and would allow for the Department to set this date instead.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

If you would like to learn more about these and other bills, you can access the Michigan Legislature website at www.legislature.mi.gov.